

Memorandum

To: Utah Political Subdivisions Interim Committee

From: Brooke W. Harkness, Executive Director
Utah Political Subdivisions Ethics Review Commission

Date: October 30, 2017

RE: Utah Political Ethics Review Commission Annual Summary Data Report

Pursuant to Utah Code Ann. § 11-49-202(3)(a), the Utah Political Ethics Review Commission (the “Commission”) submits the following summary data report for 2014.

1. General Description of the Activities of the Commission During the Past Year:

The Executive Director has fielded many phone calls and several emails from individuals seeking information about filing complaints.

Also, throughout the process of handling complaints over the last few years, the Commission, the Executive Director, and others involved in the process have found problems and inconsistencies in the statute governing this Commission (Utah Code Ann § 11-49.) There are problems with conflicts of interest, timing, ambiguity, and privacy issues. The Executive director was hoping to get some of these changes approved by the legislature last year but because of time constraints, it did not happen. She hopes to get the changes approved by the legislature this next year.

2. Number of Ethics Complaints Filed With the Commission:

In 2017, one complaint was received by the Commission.

The complaint was received June 12, 2017. The Commission met on July 25, 2017 and after careful review, the Commission voted unanimously to not forward any of

the allegations of the complaint for further review and the complaint was dismissed.

3. **Number of Ethics Complaints Dismissed in Accordance with Section 11-49-602:**

The Commission dismissed one complaint in accordance with Section 11-49-602. As noted above, after conducting a preliminary review on July 25, 2017, the Commission voted unanimously to not forward any of the allegations of the complaint for further review.

4. **Number of Ethics Complaints Reviewed by the Commission in Accordance with Section 11-49-701:**

The Commission did not review any complaints pursuant to Section 11-49-701.

5. **An Accounting of the Commission's Budget and Expenditures:**

To date this year, the Commission's total expenditures are \$11,457.83. This includes compensation for the Executive Director, witness fees, mileage reimbursements for members of the Commission, supplies, postage, and copying costs.